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Bangalore Mirror ON SUNDAY

TEMP Max 28 | Min 19 | Humidity 88% Generally cloudy sky with Light rain Sensex 81,709 | Nifty 24,677 | Gold 77,620 | Silver 92,000 | Dollar 84.67 | Euro 89.48 | GBP 107.90

CITY / PAGE 3

IN PLAIN SIGHT

Undercover cops in mufti blend into crowd to ensure women's safety in areas such as bus shelters, public transport, and college campuses

CITY / PAGE 5

LEST WE FORGET

While 2024 will be remembered for maximum number of Dengue cases, data has revealed that 39 people died of covid in state this year

While most amenities built under public private partnership model such as skywalks and bus shelters are dysfunctional, what makes the pain more acute is this: the private entities owe BBMP over Rs 300 crore for those deals

SINKING PARTNERSHIP

Of 2,212 bus shelters to be built, only 1,327 completed

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Many of the bus shelters and skywalks in the city built under public private partnership (PPP) model are in a poor shape. But, what makes this even worse is the fact that several private agencies involved in the construction of bus shelters and pedestrian skywalks under the model owe the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) over ₹300 crore in land lease and advertising fees.

Despite generating revenue through advertisements, these agencies have failed to pay the stipulated charges, leaving the civic body grappling with a challenge of collecting the dues.

Under PPP agreements, private entities were tasked with building 1,327 bus shelters, 45 skywalks, and 18 public toilets across Bengaluru. These entities were given rights to display advertisements for 20 to 30 years, in return for paying annual land lease and advertising fees. However, the BBMP reports that dues amounting to ₹298.42 crore have been pending since 2016-17.

A BBMP official said, "While the BBMP approved the construction of 2,212 bus shelters citywide, only 1,327 have been completed. Each shelter is required to pay annual lease and advertisement charges, which vary by location. Prominent locations attract a higher fee of ₹780 per square metre monthly, while other areas are charged ₹600 per square metre. However, the agencies are not adhering to these payment obligations."

The official said that the BBMP has issued

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11 »

> "No significant recovery has been made, with some agencies securing court injunctions to delay payments. With advertisement fees constituting a major revenue source for BBMP, the delay in collection continues to strain the civic body's finances — BBMP official

THE LAST DROP

Despite good rain, groundwater level in B'luru dips; experts also raise concern about effect of treated water on crops

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Groundwater levels in Bengaluru and neighbouring districts have dropped further despite above-average rainfall this year.

The recent groundwater level fluctuation report by the Ground Water Directorate shows that the water table in Bengaluru, Chikkaballapur, and Kolar districts has not bolstered even though the majority of the districts in Karnataka have improved by leaps and bounds.

In October, 19 taluks across five districts in Karnataka recorded a drop in the groundwater table by more than four metre as compared with October 2023. Of these, 17 taluks are from these three districts.

Nelamanagala, Hoskote, Bengaluru East, and Bengaluru West taluks in Bengaluru's rural and urban districts have registered a drop, with Bengaluru East recording the highest drop of more than 40 metres below ground level.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Bengaluru Studio Potters Market

It's the last day to explore artworks by 34 ceramic artists from across India at the third edition of the Bengaluru Studio Potters Market. The market is a vibrant platform for artists to showcase their unique creations, offering art lovers, collectors, and the public a chance to connect with the creators behind these inspiring works.
Where: Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath
When: Until December 8, 10:30 am to 7 pm

02 Book discussion

Abhishek Sinha's 'By Hook or By Crook' at The Urban Solace Book Lovers' Club Meet - December 2024. Sinha is a multifaceted storyteller who seamlessly blends his passion for technology, business, and creative writing.
Where Urban Solace
When: December 8, 11:30 am to 1 pm

03 Tales of Haripura

Last few days left to explore the in-house curated exhibition "Haripura Panels-Nandalal Bose (1882-1966)," showcasing 77 iconic Haripura Panels by Nandalal Bose (national treasures from the permanent collection).
Where: National Gallery of Modern Art
When: Until December 15

04 Read on

Unmana's debut novel, CHIKKAMMA TOURS (PVT), and Radhika Swarup's THE NEW NEW DELHI BOOK CLUB. Both the books are about the act of reading (be it solitary or in a community) and offer a delightful treat for bibliophiles. The authors will be in conversation with Radhika Timbadia.
Where: Champaca Bookstore, Off Queens Road
When: December 12, 6 pm

Wings of hope to arrive at Bannerghatta soon

Bannerghatta National Park's crucial vulture breeding centre project finally receives green signal from Central Zoo Authority; officials are awaiting formal announcement

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PIC FOR REPRESENTATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY

'Once formally declared, KFD will initiate the process of getting around 20 vultures to Bengaluru'

The vulture breeding centre at Bannerghatta National Park (BNP) has finally received approval from the Central Zoo Authority (CZA). According to sources at the Karnataka Forest Department (KFD), the CZA committee gave the project the green signal in its latest meeting. The department is now waiting for a formal communication to proceed.

"The project has been on hold for over a year, awaiting approval from the CZA committee. However, it has been communicated to us that the CZA committee has approved the centre. Although we are yet to receive the proceedings, we are positive that the formal announcement will arrive anytime soon," said a senior KFD official.

Once formally declared, KFD will initiate the process of getting around 20 vultures from Pinjore Vulture Conservation Breeding Centre in northern Haryana and will start the centre in a couple of months from now. The forest department came up with the centre at BNP to revive the dwindling population of long-billed and white-rumped vultures.

> **While vulture breeding centre was ready long back, it will require some work to be brought back in shape. Getting vultures will take couple of months**
> –KFD official

"We will start the process immediately after the formal announcement. While the centre was ready long back, it will require some work to be brought back in shape. Getting the birds will take a couple of months," informed the official.

Background

To carry out captive breeding of vultures, Karnataka secured funds under the Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats' (IDWH) Scheme by the Centre. The fund was sanctioned under the recovery programs for saving critically endangered species and habitats. So far, 22 species have been identified under the recovery program, and one of them is vultures.

The centre at BNP, which was ready more than a year ago, has two aviaries to house captive vultures for breeding. Once the birds lay eggs, the eggs will be moved to a brooder unit where they will be kept under regulated temperature. Once the eggs hatch, the young ones will be taken care of at the centre till they are ready to be released into the wild.

However, the first-of-its-kind project has hit multiple roadblocks since work on it started in September 2021. The centre was first expected to be ready by May 2022. However, the deadline was pushed multiple times and was finally ready only by early 2023. Later, the change in the definition of zoos under the Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act of 2022, which came into force on April 1, 2023, delayed the project further. The forest department then had to wait for permission from CZA to get the project started.

Swimming in winter can be safe & beneficial for children: Experts

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Health experts, however, have emphasised that swimming can boost children's energy, immunity, and respiratory health, making it an excellent year-round activity. Doctors BM spoke to highlighted the benefits of swimming for children regardless of the weather.

As the cold weather sets in and the holiday season begins, many parents are questioning whether swimming is safe for children during winter, especially with the flu season underway. "Swimming is an excellent all-year sport. It boosts energy levels, strengthens the immune system, and ensures consistency in physical activity. Many parents worry about children catching the flu from swimming during winter, but flu and colds are caused by viruses, not by swimming. In fact, swimming in winter can enhance immunity and improve general well-being," said Dr Ravali Polepaka, Consultant Pediatrician at TriLife Hospital.

Dr Polepaka also stressed the importance of pool hygiene. "Children in communities with well-maintained pools are at lower risk of falling sick compared to those using large public pools, where maintaining hygiene can be challenging," she said. Swimming also offers respiratory health benefits, according to experts. The warm, moist environment of indoor pools can help clear mucus from the lungs, making it particularly beneficial for children with asthma. Regular swimming helps develop lung capacity and strengthens respiratory muscles.

Dr Nitin M, Consultant Pediatrician and Neonatologist at Motherhood Hospitals, Bengaluru, agreed that swimming during winter is safe, provided the environment is suitable. "Regular swimming in a well-maintained environment during winter can strengthen a child's immunity. Parents should ensure their child is warmed up before and after swimming to avoid chills. Encouraging children to swim in such environments can be beneficial, as it helps them stay active, improves cardiovascular health, and supports muscle development," he said.

Ideal water temperature

Dr Nitin further said that indoor heated pools with proper water temperatures are ideal. Recommended pool water temperature for children swimming during winter is typically between 28°C and 32°C. "This range ensures that the water is warm enough to prevent hypothermia while still being comfortable for swimming. For infants and toddlers, slightly warmer temperatures closer to the upper limit of this range are ideal, as their smaller bodies lose heat more rapidly. Moreover, the pool area should be adequately heated to avoid a sharp contrast between water and air temperature, ensuring a safe experience for young swimmers."

Blending in with civvies, cops safeguard women

Bengaluru's covert police strategy enhances women's safety with plainclothes cops patrols, innovative law enforcement tactics

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Bengaluru's Suraksha program, organised by the city police, spotlighted fresh, innovative strategies to combat crimes affecting women. At a panel discussion, officials emphasised tackling rising issues related to women's safety through creative law enforcement techniques.

Mufti police officers

Plainclothes (mufti) police officers have been deployed in public spaces in one of the initiatives. These undercover officers blend into the crowd, maintaining a discreet presence in areas where women are most vulnerable, such as bus shelters, public transport, and college campuses. By posing as everyday citizens—some dressed as students or travellers—they monitor for criminal activities, ensuring a swift and unnoticed response when necessary. This covert patrolling has already proven successful, increasing police visibility without alarming the public.

DCP of South East Division Sarah Fathima shared insights into the city's evolving policing strategies, highlighting adaptations made to tackle modern challenges. "Previously, the Rani Chennamma Pade was used primarily for patrols, but now it has been repurposed to address women-specific crimes. Officers, sometimes in uniform and other times in plain clothes, travel as regular commuters on buses and stand at bus shelters. This allows them to observe and report incidents without being identified as police," she said. The strategy focuses on high-risk public spaces where women often face harassment. Increased patrolling, particularly near garment factories in Bommanahalli, has been effective, as many female workers feel safer knowing officers are present.

Additionally, she said that constables posing as students have successfully intercepted incidents of narcotics abuse and sexual harassment. "The students and faculty don't recognise the constables, but their work is vital in monitoring criminal behaviour," she noted. This initiative is complemented by awareness classes in educational institutions to further educate the public. The Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) of the South Division, Lokesh B Jagalasar confirmed that they have busted many narcotic and drug-related cases.

During the awareness program, police officials discussed various crimes affecting women and the legal protections available to them and other initiatives to ensure women and child safety. Police officials encouraged women to trust the law and report incidents of harassment or violence to the 112 helpline for support and protection.

The Suraksha program also provided the public an opportunity to offer feedback. One suggestion was to station a home guard near Victoria Hospital due to heavy traffic and concerns following the Kolkata incident, with many fearing to work at night. The area is spread across five blocks, requiring movement between them. In response, the Bengaluru City Police Commissioner B Dayananda assured them that they would discuss the matter and take necessary action.

Need to tackle cultural issues

During the panel discussion, Tara Ramakrishnasway, a renowned community leader, echoed the importance of tackling deeply rooted cultural issues. "Every woman sitting in this room has faced challenges, and it's essential that we celebrate our resilience," she said. She also highlighted that 97% of criminals are men, stressing that societal progress lies in dismantling the perception that women are inherently weaker. "This mindset makes it difficult for women to feel safe, whether in buses, on streets, or even in their own neighbourhoods," Tara added.

Supraja Chandrashekar, a mental health expert, further explored the psychological toll of harassment. "Harassment doesn't just affect a woman in the moment; it leads to generational trauma," she explained. "If a woman doesn't heal properly, the trauma is passed down to her children, perpetuating a cycle of emotional and physical distress. We need to break this cycle by opening up conversations and seeking support from friends, doctors, and law enforcement."

File photo of police in mufti penalising autodrivers for overcharging and refusals at Kempegowda Bus Station

Challenges faced by Bengaluru police

DCP Fathima also addressed the challenges of policing a rapidly growing cosmopolitan city like Bengaluru, due to the city's diverse population, which includes a significant number of migrants, both domestic and international. "Language barriers and delays in reporting crimes are two major issues we face. When crimes such as cyberstalking or sexual harassment, or any other crimes, are reported days after the incident, it reduces our ability to respond swiftly," she remarked. However, she urged the public to have confidence in the police force.

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SUMMER VACATION-2025
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IV&V — Sainik/Navodaya/RMS Coaching, Maths, English, Intelligence (IQ) & GK
VI to X — (Mathematics, Science & English Grammar)
Classes Start from : 02.04.2025
2023-24 Result
Sainik Schools - 435
Karnataka - 167
Others States - 268
Navodaya Schools - 102
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Yet another cyclone is brewing in Indian Ocean

Weather system likely to impact Karnataka during 3rd/4th week of December; experts speculate 2 more cyclonic circulations likely before year concludes

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People walk in the rain influenced by Cyclone Fengal, in Bengaluru, last week

Following the recent rainfall, many are speculating whether the heavy downpour caused by Cyclone Fengal will be the last of the year. However, meteorologists suggest that there could be two more cyclonic circulations before the year concludes, although the exact regions that will be affected remain uncertain.

Dr N Puviarasan, scientist at the Indian Meteorological Department, shared an update, stating, "Currently, the cyclonic circulation over the Equatorial Indian Ocean and the adjoining southeast Bay of Bengal lies over the southeast Bay of Bengal and extends up to mid-tropospheric levels as of 0530 hours IST on December 7. Under its influence, a low-pressure area is expected to form over the central parts of the south Bay of Bengal within the next 12 hours. The system is likely to move west-northwestwards, reaching the southwest Bay of Bengal off the Sri Lankan-Tamil Nadu coasts around December 12."

Further insights from Namma Karnataka Weather on the X platform confirmed that two consecutive circulations are anticipated in the southwest Bay of Bengal. The weather systems are expected to impact Karnataka during the third and fourth weeks of December, particularly bringing cloud coverage to Bengaluru, Kolar, Mandya, Chamarajanagar, Mysuru, Hassan, Kodagu, and Dakshina Kannada-Udupi regions. However, it remains unclear whether these circulations will result in significant rainfall across the state. South Tamil Nadu, the Tamil Nadu Delta regions, and South Kerala are expected to receive substantial rainfall. The weather update also mentioned that between December 16 and 22, there may be a mid-level relative humidity snap.

Dr Puviarasan further noted that although the skies in Bengaluru are clear at present, light rain is likely at isolated places in Bengaluru Rural, Bengaluru Urban, Chamarajanagar, Mysuru, Mandya, and Ramanagara districts. He also predicted shallow to moderate fog in isolated areas of interior Karnataka on December 11. Moderate rainfall is expected to occur at isolated locations in Dakshina Kannada, Udupi, Uttara Kannada, Ballari, Bengaluru Rural, Bengaluru Urban, Chamarajanagar, Chikkaballapura, Chikkamagaluru, Chitradurga, Davangere, Hassan, Kodagu, Kolar, Mandya, Mysuru, Ramanagara, Shivamogga, Tumkur, and Vijayanagara districts. Light rain is anticipated in Raichur, Yadgir, Haveri, Dharwad, and Gadag districts, while shallow to moderate fog is possible over north interior Karnataka on December 12. For the upcoming days, Bengaluru is expected to experience mainly clear skies during the day and partly cloudy skies in the evening and night, with maximum temperatures around 30°C and minimum temperatures around 19°C.

> **"Cyclonic circulation over Equatorial Indian Ocean and adjoining southeast Bay of Bengal lies over the southeast Bay of Bengal** – Dr N Puviarasan, IMD

BWSSB sets out to collect ₹188 cr in dues from govt depts

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BWSSB water tanker supplied water for free in a neighborhood facing severe water scarcity, at Byadarahalli (File photo)

Facing a financial crunch, the Bengaluru Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) has initiated efforts to recover Rs 188 crore in pending water bills from central and state government departments. Following the commencement of the Cauvery Stage V water supply project, the BWSSB has been incurring a monthly financial burden of Rs 81 crore. To alleviate this strain, the board has intensified its focus on collecting outstanding dues.

Government departments: Top defaulters

An official said, "Among the pending amounts, state government departments owe the highest—Rs 90.27 crore. The defense sector follows with Rs 37.08 crore, central government departments with Rs 26.54 crore, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike with Rs 23.36 crore, and other state-run agencies with Rs 10.69 crore." The BWSSB has written to the state finance department, requesting the deduction of outstanding bills from the grants allocated to defaulting state departments. Notices have also been issued to central government departments, urging compliance under legal provisions. "If payments are not made promptly, legal measures will be enforced," the official added.

Departments with highest dues (₹ in Crore)

State police	65.19
Defense	37.08
Railways	24.34
BBMP	23.36
State education	12.97

Public dues pile up

As many as 5.17 lakh individual consumers in Bengaluru owe a staggering Rs 685.87 crore, including Rs 433.43 crore in pending bills and Rs 252.44 crore in interest. Notices have been issued to expedite recovery from defaulters, according to BWSSB officials.

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Blocked footpath
Jaimaruti Nagar

Construction debris is dangerously obstructing the footpath near the Jaimaruti Nagar junction, increasing risk for pedestrians.

Unwalkable
Sanjeevini Nagar

The footpath at Mandara Road, near the Sanjeevini Nagar Hegganahalli cross, is in a state of disrepair.

Neglected site
Wind Tunnel Road

The Air Force compound adjacent to Wind Tunnel Road is in disarray, with work seemingly halted. Recent rainfall has turned the pit into a stagnant water pool, and no efforts are being made to pump out the water.

Covid's still lurking: State reports 39 deaths in 2024

B'luru records 4 deaths until November: latest Covid data serves as stark reminder of lingering presence of virus that was largely forgotten, overshadowed by other issues

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The year 2024 was remembered for maximum dengue cases while Covid was long forgotten. However, as per the latest data, around 39 people died of Covid in the State this year (up to November 20, 2024) including four in Bengaluru. A health expert said, "As the world moved past the height of the pandemic, 2024 seemed to be a year when COVID-19 was largely forgotten, overshadowed by normalcy and other global issues. However, the virus quietly persisted, claiming 39 lives in Karnataka, including four in Bengaluru. These numbers, though small compared to previous years, served as a stark reminder of the lingering presence of COVID-19 even when the world assumed it was gone."

Covid deaths in state and city

According to the data provided by the Union Health Ministry in Lok Sabha, the impact of the virus on Karnataka and Bengaluru over the years has been monumental. In 2020, as the pandemic took its initial toll, Karnataka recorded 12,143 deaths, with Bengaluru accounting for 4,344 of them—making up 35.79% of the state's total. The second wave in 2021 was particularly devastating, with Karnataka reporting a staggering 26,245 fatalities, of which Bengaluru alone contributed 12,074 deaths, or 46.01% of the state's toll.

By 2022, with vaccinations and better medical interventions in place, the numbers began to decline significantly. Karnataka recorded 1,920 deaths that year, with Bengaluru contributing 575, representing 29.95% of the state's fatalities. In 2023, the numbers dropped further to 64 statewide and 17 in Bengaluru, accounting for 26.56% of Karnataka's deaths.

Overall, between 2020 and 2024, Karnataka reported a total of 40,411 C-19 deaths, with Bengaluru accounting for 17,014, or 42.10% of the state's total fatalities. These statistics underline how deeply the pandemic affected Bengaluru.

Doctors & nursing staff at Victoria Hospital conduct a mock drill to ensure proper treatment of Covid-19 cases in Bengaluru (file photo)

Sub-committee to discuss 'Covid scam'

Meanwhile, Karnataka government's cabinet sub-committee convened to discuss potential actions regarding the report submitted by Justice Michael D'Cunha, which highlighted alleged irregularities during the COVID-19 response.

Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar, Home Minister H Parameshwara, Health Minister Dinesh Gundurao, and other members were present at the meeting. DKS stated that officials have been authorised to take necessary actions based on the recommendations in the report. He emphasised that while the government does not wish to engage in a "witch hunt," numerous anomalies had been uncovered."

Justice D'Cunha submitted his findings, and we are now focusing on the actions to be taken. We have empowered the officers to act according to the report and the law. We are not here to create any unnecessary trouble, but there are significant irregularities, he said. "For instance, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) reported taking 84 lakh samples, while Kidwai handled about 24 lakh. This means hundreds of crores were collected from the government for a population of one crore, yet there were no ICMR-approved facilities conducting these tests," Shivakumar said.

> **"Overall, between 2020 and 2024, Karnataka reported 40,411 Covid-19 deaths, with B'luru accounting for 17,014 (42.10%) of state's total fatalities**
> – Union Health Ministry data

Justice D'Cunha's report accused the previous BJP-led government of failing to utilise the Rs 447 crore allocated for Covid relief and healthcare, as well as mishandling the testing process by sending samples to unqualified private labs, resulting in an expenditure of up to Rs 6 crore. In response to the report, a Special Investigation Team (SIT) has been established to investigate further.

New app launched to combat drug abuse, trafficking

The Karnataka Police Department has introduced the 'Nashe Mukta Karnataka' mobile application, a proactive tool aimed at curbing drug abuse and trafficking across the state. The app empowers citizens to play a key role in reporting illicit drug activities, anonymously and securely. Available in both English and Kannada, the app allows users to report suspicious activities easily while also offering valuable information on the narcotics and Narcotics Act, legal punishments, precautionary measures, and the harmful effects of drugs. The app even covers aspects like the cultivation and smuggling of drug crops.

From details about narcotic growers, sellers, and consumers to data on synthetic drug labs, transporters, and collection networks, the app ensures that all reports reach the appropriate law enforcement authorities. — BMB

Courier staff alerted to drug smuggling

The City Crime Branch (CCB) on Saturday conducted raids on several courier offices in Bengaluru, suspecting the presence of narcotics in parcels. The Anti-Narcotics Wing (ANW) team along with sniffer dogs, searched five courier godowns located in SR Nagar, Chamarajapete, Kalasipalya, and Mysore Road. Despite the extensive search, no drugs were discovered. Separate teams also carried out raids at courier offices in Sampangiramnagar, Kalasipalya, and KR Market, but no suspicious items were found.

Police officials believe drug peddlers may attempt to use couriers to supply narcotics ahead of the New Year celebrations. As a precaution, courier staff have been instructed to report any suspicious parcels to local authorities. The police have ramped up surveillance on inter-district parcels and interstate transportation, including trains and buses. — BMB

Visit Bengaluru Studio Potters Market today

Third edition of the Bengaluru Studio Potters Market is currently underway at Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath, concluding on Sunday. A haven for art and craft enthusiasts, the event offers a glimpse into the captivating world of clay. Studio potters from across India have brought an exquisite collection of handcrafted works, priced between Rs 500 and Rs 20,000. Each creation reflects the artist's unique story, passion, and personality. What sets this market apart is the creativity on display, with innovative designs and ideas transcending age barriers. From young graduates to retirees, creators of all ages have proven that clay artistry knows no bounds. Don't miss this opportunity to explore one-of-a-kind home decor pieces and thoughtful gifts for your loved ones. Visit today and immerse yourself in the magic of clay artistry! — BMB

HAL-SAI High-Performance Centre to come up in city

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), a Maharatna CPSE, signed a Memorandum of Understanding with National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) and Sports Authority of India (SAI) on Friday for the establishment of a state-of-the-art "HAL-SAI High-Performance Centre" in Bengaluru, under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Initiatives.

This collaborative effort aims to elevate India's sporting prowess. DK Sunil, CMD, HAL, Divya Gupta, Independent Director, AB Pradhan, Director (HR), HAL, Col Rakesh Yadav, Jt CEO, TOPS, Vishnu Sudhakaran, Regional Director, SAI, Kamkhan Singh, Under Secretary, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS), and senior officials were present on this occasion.

HAL has been supporting sports in partnership with the SAI to provide world-class facilities and build a platform for the talented pool of sportspersons of India. — BMB

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BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORYBEHINDTHEPHOTO

OCEANIC PEACE

The Mantrimandir at Puducherry is a symbol of international unity as it contains the soil of many countries

The picture was clicked by reader **Sridhar Comaravalli**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com**

Encroachment clearance drives in 3 BBMP zones

Drives aimed at restoring pedestrian walkways affected by illegal encroachments in 3 zones

| Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) began encroachment clearance drives across three zones—South, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, and Mahadevapura—on Saturday targeting obstructions on pedestrian pathways. A BBMP official said, "The drives are aimed to restore pedestrian walkways affected by illegal encroachments that disrupt public movement. Unauthorised shopfronts, makeshift stalls, and street vendors occupying pavements were removed. Permanent structures on footpaths were taken under BBMP custody, with stern warnings issued against resuming business on these pathways. Additionally, unauthorised overhead cables on Old Airport Road near Marathahalli Bridge were dismantled in Mahadevapura Zone. These cables were deemed both an eyesore and a safety hazard. The operation, overseen by BBMP officials, including executive and assistant engineers, focussed on improving public safety and urban aesthetics."

Overhead cables in Mahadevapura zone was cleared as part of the drive

Solid waste transfer station at Jakkarayana Kere

In another development, BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath directed zonal joint commissioners to propose constructing two secondary solid waste transfer stations at Jakkarayana Kere Playground near Subhash Nagar Railway Approach Road. This follows complaints from residents about over 6,000 abandoned vehicles parked by the police department on the five-acre playground, leading to unhygienic conditions. The Chief Commissioner instructed officials to coordinate with the police to clear the vehicles and repurpose the area for solid waste management facilities and a public garden to benefit nearby neighbourhoods.

Vendors removed from footpaths

"The BBMP also decided to streamline street vending by instructing officials to conduct surveys and designate specific vending zones, particularly in areas like Malleswaram, where street vendors have been removed from footpaths," said an official. Further, officials were tasked with preparing a GPS-tagged list of incomplete houses under the single dwelling scheme to facilitate the release of pending grants and ensure timely project completion. "Welfare measures were also highlighted, with instructions to provide livelihood support to differently-abled citizens under relevant welfare schemes," added the official.

DID YOU KNOW?

Ted Bundy, a name synonymous with terror, was a notorious American serial killer who preyed on young women in the 1970s. Charming and intelligent, he used his charisma to lure victims before brutally murdering them. His crimes spanned multiple states, and his calculated actions and subsequent escapes from custody made him a figure of national obsession. Despite his seemingly normal exterior, Bundy harbored a dark and twisted mind, ultimately confessing to over 30 murders, though the true number is believed to be higher. His case remains one of the most chilling and perplexing in American criminal history. Ted Bundy's crimes were particularly gruesome and involved a pattern of kidnapping, rape, torture, and murder. He often targeted young women, luring them with his charm and then attacking them in their homes or in public places. He often returned to crime scenes to engage in necrophilia, further demonstrating the disturbing nature of his actions

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

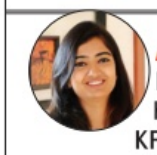
9591233247

Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

TAPTHECHATTER

where Bengalureans speak their mind

What international food joints do you enjoy spending time at in Bengaluru?



Anjali S, BM Reader
I love spending my weekends at KFC and Domino's in Bengaluru. KFC's crispy fried chicken and Domino's delicious pizzas are my all-time favourites. The cozy ambiance of KFC makes it my go-to place for a relaxed weekend.

Reshma, BM Reader
KFC is my absolute favourite international food joint in Bengaluru. Their chicken is simply irresistible, especially the spicy, crispy variety. I often find myself craving their delicious meals, which are perfect for any occasion.

Mandara, BM Reader
McDonald's is the international food joint I enjoy the most in Bengaluru. It's a classic choice, with its wide range of delicious burgers, fries, and shakes. Whether it's the Big Mac, or McSpicy Burger, McDonald's never disappoints.

Pradeep, BM Reader
Although not an international joint, Vidyarthi Bhavan is my favourite place to visit in Bengaluru. Their dosa and other South Indian dishes are truly incredible. It's worth every minute spent waiting to enjoy their mouthwatering food.

Dhanu GA, BM Reader
KFC and Dominos are my top choices for international food joints in Bengaluru. Both offer amazing food and provide a great environment for chit-chatting with friends, which is irreplacable.

Praveen Kumar, BM Reader
Plan B is my favorite international food joint to spend time at in Bengaluru. It stands out not just for its delicious food but also for the city's vibrant atmosphere that surrounds it. Bengaluru offers a lively nightlife.

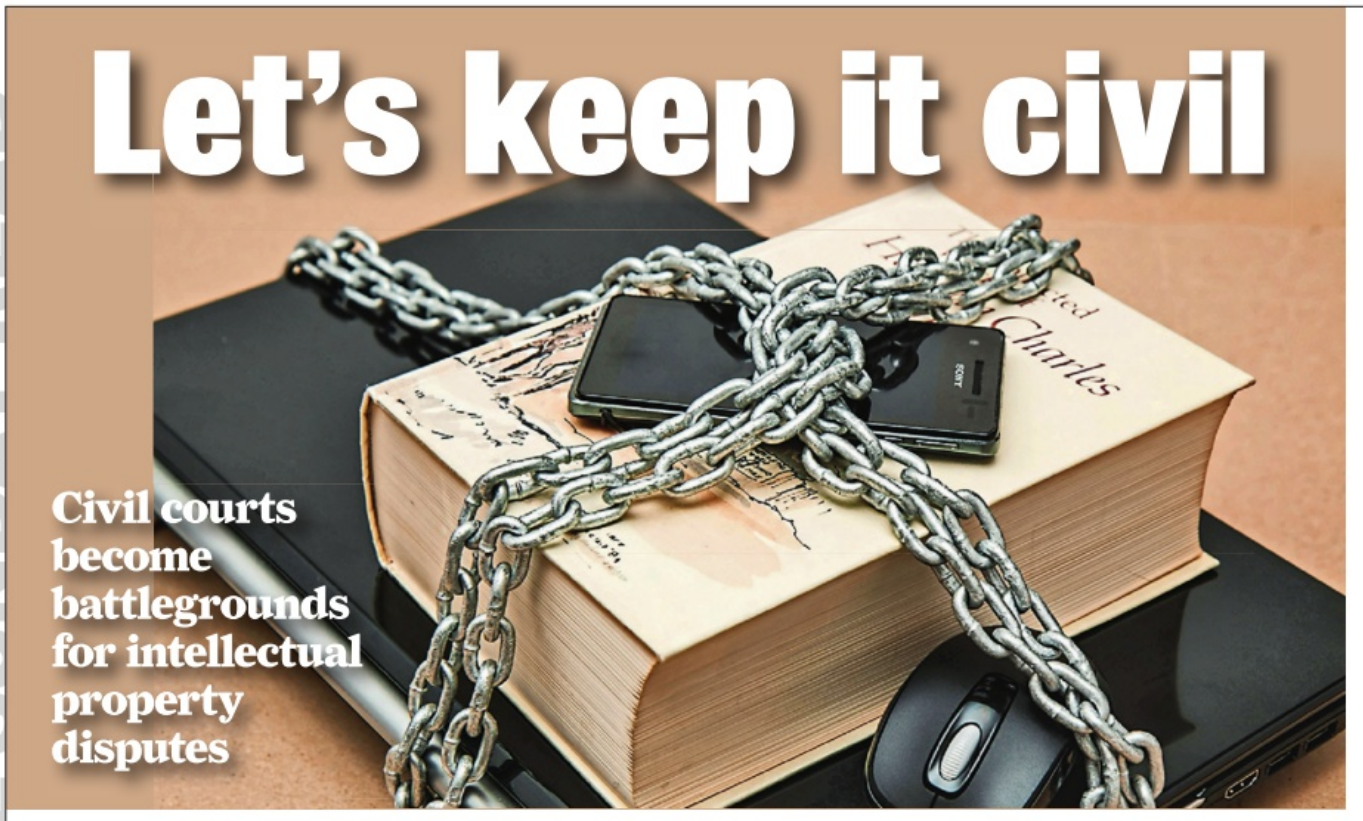
SPEAK TO US

Which is your favourite place to hangout in Bengaluru?

If you want to be featured in this section, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation & a picture at WhatsApp us on 9591233247 or mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com

THE SUNDAY READ

Let's keep it civil



Civil courts become battlegrounds for intellectual property disputes

| Sanjana CS
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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

In the age of digital innovation and creative entrepreneurship, the battle to protect intellectual property (IP) has intensified. According to the police data, between February and October this year, a striking 114 cases of copyright violations were reported, signalling the growing menace of intellectual property theft. Yet, beneath this statistic lies an intriguing shift: Civil courts are now the battleground for copyright disputes, replacing criminal courts as the arena of choice.

Sanjay Sethiya, founding partner at Law Square Advocates and Solicitors, an expert who specialises in intellectual property infringement, noted a marked decline in criminal copyright prosecutions, along with a surge in civil litigation. Around 5 to 10 new civil cases are being filed daily for intellectual property violations, a sharp uptick compared to previous years. This trend indicates that individuals and businesses are increasingly opting for civil suits, seeking monetary damages and injunctions rather than pursuing criminal charges.

According to experts, the reason for this includes a light punishment under copyright law. Section 63 of the Copyright Act, 1957, outlines penalties for infringement, including imprisonment for six months to three years and fines between 50,000 and 2,00,000. But where the infringement is not related to business, courts may impose reduced penalties. Based on the circumstances, jail term could be less than six months, or a lower fine may be imposed.

The lengthy procedure from when an FIR is registered to the matter becoming a criminal case also deters companies. In these cases, the complainant must personally present evidence in court, but in case of civil suits, individuals can rely on lawyers for guidance.

In a civil suit, plaintiffs have the opportunity to seek financial compensation for losses and damages caused by infringement. Additionally, courts can issue injunctions to stop unauthorised use or distribution, providing immediate relief. In contrast, criminal proceedings often involve lengthy investigations, higher burdens of proof, and outcomes that don't necessarily offer stoppage of unauthorised use and/or direct financial redress to the victim.

"Theft of intellectual property isn't just a legal issue—it's an economic one. When that work is stolen, it's not just an idea being taken; it's revenue and livelihood," says Sethiya.

In addition, he explains there are now dedicated courts specifically handling Intellectual Property cases. A recent provision under the Commercial Courts Act brings Intellectual Property Rights disputes within the jurisdiction of commercial courts. Previously, there was only one dedicated court for such cases, but now there are eight.

More to lay claim on

While Section 63 of the Copyright Act sets limits on penalties and fines, commercial courts offer broader remedies. Victims can claim property destruction, asset seizure, cessation of infringement, and compensation for damages incurred on actuals, if one is able to prove.

For instance, in a 13-year-old case, a Pune district court rejected Burger King Corporation's attempt to prevent a local eatery from using the 'Burger King' name. The court noted that the Pune eatery had used the name since 1992, predating BKC's trademark registration in 2006. Judge Sunil G Vedpathak ruled that Burger King Corporation had no grounds for an injunction or damages due to a lack of sufficient evidence. The local couple argued that BKC's case was malicious, while the US firm cited its international reputation. Ultimately, the court favoured the eatery's prior usage rights. In intellectual property rights (IPR) law, passing off refers to making a false representation that misleads consumers into believing one party's goods or services belong to another. In their counterclaim, the Pune eatery owners sought 20 lakh in compensatory damages, citing mental pain and agony caused by the prolonged legal battle.

Dual protection

Intellectual property is crucial for fostering creativity and innovation by protecting creators' ideas, encouraging investment, and supporting technological advancement. It balances private rights with public benefit, ensuring inventors are rewarded while their contributions serve society. Protecting IP safeguards ingenuity, promoting progress and benefiting humanity in a rapidly evolving world, says Sethiya.

The Designs Act defines a design as the shape, pattern, configuration, or composition of an object created through an industrial process. Meanwhile, the Copyright Act protects artistic works such as paintings, drawings, sculptures, and photographs. The Trade Marks Act, 1999, defines a trademark as a mark that can be graphically represented and distinguishes the goods or services of one entity from another. This may include product shapes, packaging, or color combinations.

These overlapping laws provide dual protection for creative works and industrial designs, offering comprehensive intellectual property security. The Supreme Court recently witnessed an unusual scene when liquor bottles were presented during a trademark infringement hearing involving Pernod Ricard India, makers of 'Blenders Pride' and 'Imperial Blue' whiskies. The company sought to overturn a Madhya Pradesh High Court ruling favoring JK Enterprises, which produces 'London Pride.' Pernod Ricard claimed trademark violations and similarities in product design. The Supreme Court stayed the High Court's decision and scheduled a follow-up hearing, highlighting the discerning nature of whisky consumers.

"People have become more aware of intellectual property rights in a broader sense, as they recognise the value of collective protection. This awareness ensures they safeguard their assets through multiple legal avenues, securing their creative works and innovations under relevant laws like copyright, trademark, and design acts," says Sethiya. He said only 25% of the population may be aware though, of which only about 7% have a clear idea about these laws that protect intellectual property rights.

> **"Theft of intellectual property isn't just a legal issue — it's an economic one. When that work is stolen, it's not just an idea being taken; it's revenue and livelihood**
> **-Sanjay Sethiya, Intellectual Property Infringement expert**

Scientific artifacts from 19th Century

| Sridhar.Vivan @timesofindia.com

TWEETS @sridharvMirror

The Science Gallery on Ballari Road has recently unveiled rare scientific instruments from the 19th Century, along with historical markers that trace Bengaluru's scientific journey. The 7th exhibition in the 'SCI 560' series, which highlights Bengaluru's contributions to science and its status as a prominent science city, was inaugurated sometime back.

This exhibition offers a comprehensive look at the city's scientific advancements across various fields, including military, science, and industry, from the 19th century to the present day. On its opening day, students, science enthusiasts, and the general public thronged the Science Gallery.

Highlights

Torpedo and Simputer: A key attraction is a torpedo designed and manufactured in Bengaluru, used by Indian forces during World War I. Additionally, the Simputer, an early handheld device developed by Bharat Electronics Limited, showcases Bengaluru's innovation before the advent of modern computers.

Manual Rectifier Frames and War Art: Visitors are greeted by manual rectifier frames from the Madras Engineer Group, alongside artworks by foreign artist Jenifer White, created from clay collected from lakes used by soldiers during World War I.

Exploration and Research: The exhibition features displays related to Srikantan's 1948 study of cosmic muons in the Kolar gold mines, along with historical photographs and a tabla used by physicist Dr. C. V. Raman in his research on musical vibrations.

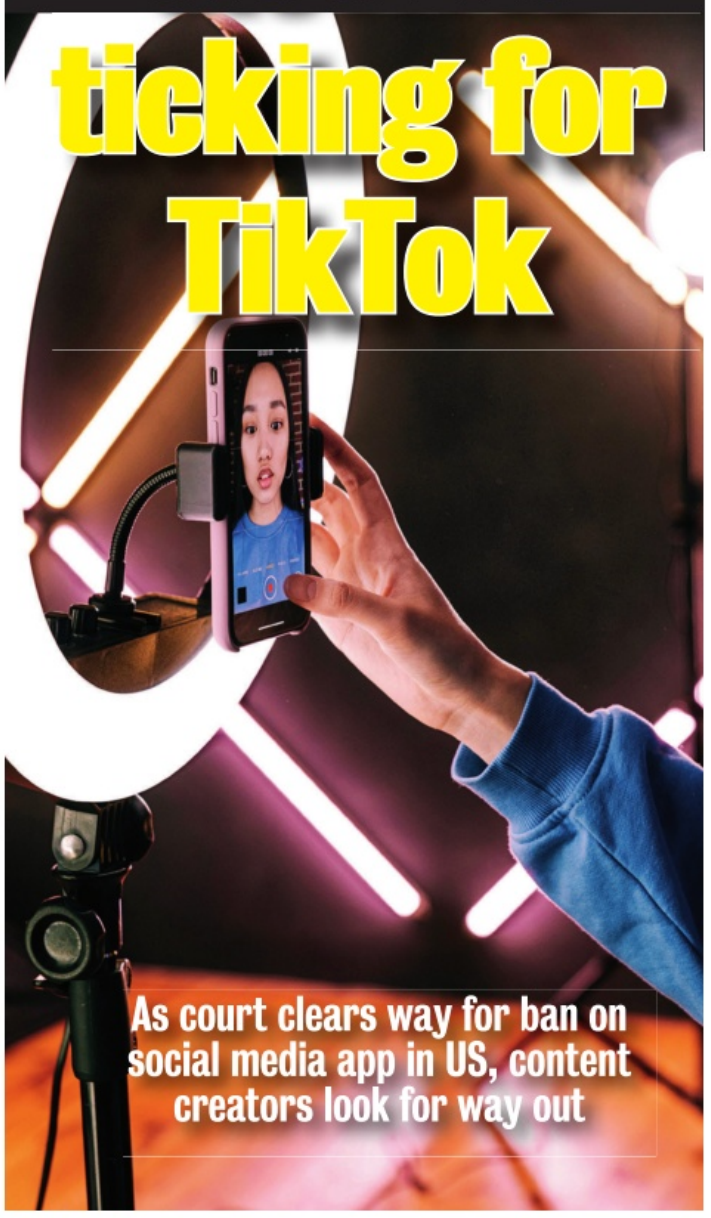
Need support

Science Gallery founding director Jahnavi Falke highlighted the exhibition's goal to educate the public about Bengaluru's scientific history. Minister NS Boseraju also emphasised on the importance of corporate support in advancing science, announcing a 10 crore corpus fund for science-related initiatives.

The gallery will remain open on Sunday and every week from Wednesday to Sunday, offering free entry from 10 am to 10 pm. A team of 12 will be available to provide information on the scientific models in both Kannada and English.

The 7th exhibition in the 'SCI 560' series highlights Bengaluru's contributions to science

Clock is ticking for TikTok



As court clears way for ban on social media app in US, content creators look for way out

American content creators on TikTok asked followers to subscribe to their channels on rival platforms like Meta-owned Instagram and Alphabet's YouTube after a federal appeals court ruled that the social media app could be banned if it is not sold to a U.S.-based company by Jan. 19.

TikTok has become a major U.S. digital force as it has grown to 170 million U.S. users, especially younger people drawn to its short, often irreverent videos. It has sucked away advertisers from some of the largest U.S. players and added commerce platform TikTok Shop, which has become a marketplace for small businesses.

The U.S. Congress, fearing TikTok's Chinese owners are gathering information about American consumers, has passed a law requiring its owner, Chinese-backed ByteDance, to divest its TikTok in the U.S. or face a ban. On Friday, a federal appeals court upheld the law.

Threats by politicians and others to TikTok have been building for years, leading some users to brush off recent threats. That appeared to change on Friday, with the prospect of a ban in just six weeks. A Supreme Court appeal is still possible.

"For the first time I'm realizing that a lot of what I worked for could disappear," Chris Mowrey, a Democratic social media influencer with 470,000 TikTok followers, told Reuters. "I don't think it's been talked about enough how damaging it will be from an economic standpoint for small businesses and creators."

On the app, viewers and content creators voiced concerns and confusion, many saying they doubted the platform would survive, and that they were prepared for the worst.

Chris Burkett, a content creator on TikTok with 1.3 million people following his men's lifestyle videos, said he did not think the platform would last. "I don't think there's longevity on this app in the United States," he said in a video post, asking his audience to follow him on other social media platforms, such as Instagram, YouTube, X and Threads. "We've put so many years and so much time into building our community here," said food travel content creator SnipingForDom, who has 898,000 followers on the app. While he did not think the end was near for TikTok, he still told followers to reach out to him on his Instagram page. Others were also awaiting more information. Sarah Jannetti, a TikTok Shop consultant, said her clients are not worried about a potential TikTok ban and will not shift their businesses "until they see something that's more concrete."

> **"I don't think it's been talked about enough how damaging it will be from an economic standpoint for small businesses and creators**

Advertisers stay put

TikTok advertisers were in no rush to shift their marketing budgets after the court ruling.

In an email to advertisers on Friday, which was seen by Reuters, TikTok's president of global business solutions Blake Chandlee said the company planned to seek "an injunction to stop the TikTok ban from going into effect until the U.S. Supreme Court has an opportunity to review it."

With TikTok's future in the U.S. uncertain, advertising executives said brands are maintaining their activities on the app, while ensuring they have a plan B.

"Advertisers have not pulled back from TikTok, though several are developing contingency plans for potential reallocation of investment should there be a ban," said Jason Lee, executive vice president of brand safety at media agency Horizon Media.

Horizon is working with clients to prepare for a variety of scenarios if the app is sold or banned, Lee said.

Meta Platforms, owner of Facebook and Instagram, stands to gain the majority of TikTok's ad revenue if the app is banned, followed by Alphabet's YouTube, said Erik Huberman, CEO of marketing agency Hawke Media. Both companies have introduced short-form video features in the past few years to compete with TikTok.

Still, "there's no decision to make until there's a decision to make," he said.

The app continues to have an active audience, making it unlikely for brands to step away prematurely. "At the end of the day, advertisers won't abandon the ship unless their customers do first," said Lance Wolder, head of strategy at digital advertising firm PadSquad. TikTok's U.S. ad revenue is expected to reach $12.3 billion this year, according to estimates from Emarketer. **-Reuters**

Google Payment under US watchdog radar

The US watchdog for consumer finance on Friday announced it was ordering federal supervision of Google Payment Corp., the internet giant's payment arm, a decision the company immediately said it was challenging in court.

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau announced the step saying it had determined services offered by Google Payment had posed a risk to consumers.

The regulator's step and the subsequent lawsuit marked a government tussle with a Silicon Valley behemoth in the final weeks of President Joe Biden's administration. The regulator's move could be reversed after President-elect Donald Trump returns to the White House in January.

Under Biden, the CFPB has been more closely scrutinizing the growing sector of financial services provided by Silicon Valley rather than traditional banks. The agency cited nearly 300 consumer complaints, many of which concerned reports of fraud, scams and unauthorized transactions. It said it did constitute a finding that the company had engaged in wrongdoing.

The CFPB order nevertheless said consumer complaints indicated Google Payment had failed to investigate complaints about erroneous transfers, among other potential violations, and that the law allowed for supervision even if Google has discontinued the services in question.

In a lawsuit filed after the CFPB announcement, Google Payment Corp. said the regulator had relied on a small number of unsubstantiated complaints concerning a product it no longer offered. "As a matter of common sense, a product that no longer exists is incapable of posing such risk," the company's complaint said. The CFPB declined to comment on the lawsuit.

Financial regulators use confidential supervisory exams to spot and correct companies' violations of law. Last month, the CFPB finalized new regulations subjecting tech companies to the same supervision currently faced by banks if those companies offer digital wallets and payment services. The agency has also persisted in rulemaking in the final weeks of Biden's administration despite calls from Republican lawmakers to desist. **-Reuters**

BITS & BYTES

Loan boost

In a bid to help India strengthen and modernise its logistics sector, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a $350 million policy-based loan to support wide-ranging reforms in the sector.

The logistics sector reforms are also expected to create substantial employment opportunities, both in urban and rural areas. The increased demand for skilled logistics workers, driven by private sector investments and process efficiency, will contribute to job creation.

The loan will finance the second subprogramme of the 'Strengthening Multimodal and Integrated Logistics Ecosystem Programme', which supports the government's efforts to create a comprehensive policy, planning, and institutional framework at the federal, state, and city levels. **-IANS**

Start-up funding

The Indian startup ecosystem saw its cumulative funding reach $250 million across 18 deals this week, a significant 72 per cent increase.

Domestic startups had raised more than $145 million last week, as investor confidence revived in the country when it came to VC funding.

Global investment group Prosus disclosed it infused $100 million in NBFC Vastu Housing Finance and $80 million in fintech Mintifi.

AI-enabled customer feedback intelligence platform Enterpret raised $20.8 million in Series A funding led by Canaan Partners, a US-based venture capital firm.

The electric two-wheeler maker Ultraviolette raised Rs 130 crore in a fresh round of funding from its existing investors Zoho, Lingotto, Mudhal Partners and Ojas Consultation. **-IANS**

Hi-fi airports

Looking to introduce global standards in airport security, the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) is establishing an Internal Quality Control Unit (IQCU) for the Aviation Security Group (ASG) deployed at 68 airports across India. As a step towards enhancing aviation security, the IQCU will play a big role in setting up world-class security and introducing new technology.

This initiative is in compliance with the National Civil Aviation Security Quality Control Programme-2024 (NCASQCP) issued by the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) and the Aircraft (Security) Rules-2023, said an official statement. **-IANS**

HEALTH TIP: Gently massage your scalp for 5-10 minutes daily as it helps increase blood circulation

Jojoba oil is a natural moisturiser that mimics the skin's sebum, keeping it soft and supple

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All you need to know about...

Tips to pick swimsuit

Check For Adjustable Features
Finding the right swimsuit—one that fits perfectly can be a tad bit challenging. Look for suits that can be adapted to your needs for instance adjustable straps that can prevent them from falling down or digging into your shoulders. Removable cups are also good, once the suit gets old, you can always easily replace them.

Suited to Your Body Type
Buying according to your body type. "If you're pear-shaped, look for a suit that has a ruched or gathered top to create curves and to overall balance your figure," says Anjali Kamat Patil, Founder of Meraki Life. If you're bottom-heavy, opt for a high-waisted suit or a printed one.

The Occasion
Are you shopping only for the holiday? Do you intend to wear it to the beach? Or do you also plan on wearing your new suit to some really cool beach parties? "If you're not keen on making two purchases, get a plain swimsuit and edgy cover ups and this way you can make the most out of your suit," advises Shikha Berry, Founder of Tizzi. Remember to keep the activities you'd be doing in your swimsuit in mind. For example, if you intend to get a sun tan by hanging on the beach, a string bikini works fine, but if you mean to surf or participate in water sports, opt for a full piece with thick straps or long sleeves for sun protection.

Underwire Bikini
Here's a great tip to remember before buying a bikini. No matter your bra size, look for bikinis that come with an underwire as they can offer some additional support, and even a little boost. Visible underwired bikinis are all the rage currently and for good reason.

— Femina

WINTER SPECIAL

Savour the season, one bite at a time, with these recipes

METHI PARATHA

INGREDIENTS
For the mixture of methi
- Methi Leaves cleaned and chopped - 250 gm
- Chopped Garlic - 10 cloves
- Green chillies chopped - 4 to 5 nos
- Besan - 5 tsp
- Cumin seeds - 1/2 tsp
- Oil - 1 tsp
- Salt to taste

For dough
- Wheat Flour - 2 cups
- Oil or ghee Ghee - 1 tsp
- Ajwain - 1 tsp
- Salt - 1/2 tsp
- Other Ingredients:
- Whole wheat flour for rolling as needed
- Oil or ghee for roasting paratha as needed

METHOD
For dough
- In a bowl, add all the ingredients mentioned for kneading dough and mix nicely.
- Add water little by little and make a soft dough. Set aside for 30 minutes.

For stuffing
- Heat the oil in a pan on a medium flame and add the cumin seeds/ mustard. When it starts spluttering, add chopped garlic and green chillies.
- When it is slightly brown add chopped methi to it and stir for about 5 minutes.
- Add 5 tsp besan and salt to taste and keep stirring for about 5 minutes. Once done let it cool down.
- Now make small uniform balls from the mixture and set aside.

For paratha
- Make small uniform balls out of the dough.
- Flatten it with your palm. Take a spoonful of the mixture and fill it into the flattened dough ball and then seal it from all sides.
- Roll it into small round chapattis on a rolling board.
- Preheat a tava, put the chapattis one at a time and apply ghee on both sides as you turn it.
- When there appear small brown patches on the parantha, remove it from the tava.
- Serve hot with any curry, vegetables, raita, curd, sauce or, pickle.

SARSON KA SAG

INGREDIENTS
For Saag
- Mustard leaves/Sarson ka saag - 500 gm
- Spinach/palak - 250 gm
- Fenugreek leaves/methi - 250 gm
- Garlic finely chopped - 1 tbsp
- Ginger finely chopped - 1 tbsp
- Green chilli finely chopped - 3
- Maize flour - 2-3 tsp

For Tadka
- Onion chopped - 1 cup
- Green chilli chopped - 2
- Ginger chopped - 1 inch
- Garlic chopped - 5-6 pods
- Coriander powder - 1 tsp
- Ghee - 2 tbsp
- Salt to taste

For extra flavour
- Ghee - 1-2 tbsp
- Asafoetida a pinch
- Green chilli slit - 2-3
- Dry red chilli - 2-3
- Garlic cut into halves, lengthwise - 8-10 pods

METHOD
- Roughly chop the leaves.
- In a pressure cooker add chopped sarson, palak and methi leaves.
- Add chopped ginger, garlic and green chilli and give it a nice mix.
- Add salt and water, cover and cook on medium flame until one whistle.
- Once done, let the steam release completely on its own and then open the lid.
- Now slightly cover and cook again for an hour, mashing the saag using a hand blender after every 10 minutes, until it is well cooked.
- If there is no water left in the saag then you can heat water and add as per requirement.
- Cook saag till it gets well cooked and mashed well.
- Now add the maize flour (makki ka atta) and a little boiling water and mix it well.
- Cook for 5 to 10 minutes more, mashing in between.
- Now heat desi ghee in a pan.
- Add one roughly chopped onion and fry until golden brown.
- Then add 2 chopped green chilli, garlic, ginger and salt.
- Add coriander powder and fry until the raw smell of coriander powder goes away.
- Now add the mashed saag at this point and give it a nice mix.

GAJAR KA HALWA

INGREDIENTS
- Tender Juicy Red Carrot grated - 5 cups
- Ghee - 5 tbsp
- Full Cream Milk - 5 cups
- Powdered Cardamom - 7-8 nos
- Sugar - 10 tbsp
- Raisins - handful
- Whole Cashew - 20-25 nos
- Chopped or sliced Almond - 15-20 nos

METHOD
- Peel and grate the carrots.
- In a heavy-bottomed pan or kadhai add ghee then add carrot to it and stir nicely.
- Immediately add milk to it and let this mixture boil on a medium flame.
- Now keep the flame low and let it simmer while stirring in between.
- Let the grated carrot cook in the milk.
- Once the milk starts reducing and evaporating leaving behind thick khoya, add sugar to it.
- Stir well and continue stirring in between, till the sugar is absorbed and the halwa becomes dry again.
- Now add cashews, almonds, raisins and cardamom powder and mix everything nicely.
- When the halwa starts to leave the side of the frying pan, turn off the gas.
- The halwa can be served hot or cold, depending on your preference.

Recipes from The Tastes of India podcast on Audible

Nominee is... Citadel: Honey Bunny received a nomination under the the Best Foreign Language category for the 30th Annual Critics Choice Awards 2025

Saying it in Kannada

Deepika Padukone helps Diljit crack the language code

The gorgeous star Deepika Padukone recently became a mother to a beautiful baby girl. She took some 'me time' out and made her first official public appearance at Diljit Dosanjh's Bangalore concert. Earlier the video of Deepika enjoying the concert as a fan was going viral, then the clip of her getting on the stage left fans in a frenzy and now another post is melting hearts, where Deepika Padukone can be seen teaching Diljit Dosanjh Kannada.

In a viral clip, the 'Piku' star actress can be seen giving Kannada lessons to the global artist Diljit. The lesson started after Diljit Dosanjh's request, and Deepika asked him to repeat a phrase after her, which was - 'Nanu Ninige Preetistini.' Soon the viewers started rooting and cheering for both the stars, the entire vibe was infectious.

The 'Jatt & Juliet' star also spoke highly of Deepika as he greeted him at the concert. "Deepika Padukone, can you believe guys? She has worked incredibly and we have seen her on the big screen. Never did I think I would see her from so close. She is lovely and created her place in Bollywood solely because of her hard work. We are all very proud of her," he said on the stage.

Deepika's appearance also made headlines for her style statement. The new mom selected a comfortable outfit. In a white sweatshirt, blue denim pants, and a pair of sneakers, she proved sticking to the basics never fails to impress. She complimented her look with minimal makeup, loose hair, and of course her million-dollar smile. **—ETimes**

Ode to the Kudubi community

GUMTI

2.5 RATING ★★½☆☆

- **DIRECTOR** Sandesh Shetty Ajri
- **ACTORS** Sandesh Shetty Ajri, Vaishnavi Nadig, Raghu Pandeshwar, Ranjan Chatrapati, Karan Kundar
- **CERTIFICATION** U
- **Duration** 113 minutes

Director Sandesh Shetty Ajri, known for his movies Kathale Kone and Inamdar, attempts to showcase the tradition and culture of the Kudubi community in coastal Karnataka that is on the verge of extinction. The director emphasises on the need to preserve and promote the community's culture. The movie explores the lifestyle and challenges of balancing its tradition with modernity.

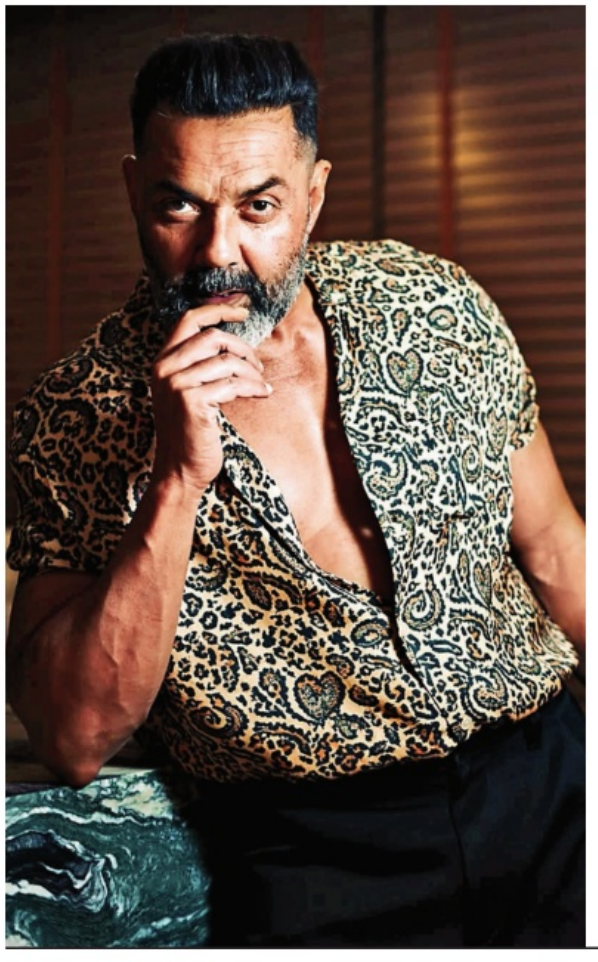
The movie begins with a TV channel reporter being assigned to visit a village known for the Kudubi community. The reporter meets Nayak, the community leader. Nayak narrates how Kudubi community people migrated to cities to eke out a living and how the tradition and culture of Kudubi community are on the verge of extinction. After watching the interview of Nayak on the TV, his son Kashi (Sandesh Shetty Ajri), who left his hometown and has been working at a hotel in Kolhapur for five years, returns home. Kashi, with support from his cousin Malli (Vaishnavi Nadig), tries his best to motivate youth from his community to join hands with him to save and celebrate Kudubi culture. You have to watch the movie to know whether Kashi and Malli succeed in their mission.

The movie showcases the folk art from Kundapura region. It takes the audiences to different locations such as Udupi, Kundapura, Karwar, Sirsi, Hubballi, Belgavai and Sholapur.

Lack of comedy to break the monotonous narration is a problem with this movie. Sandesh Shetty Ajri has played the lead with ease. Vaishnavi Nadig has acted well. Karan Acharya, as a TV reporter, Swaraj Lakshmi, as a concerned mother, provide good support.

The movie is worth a watch if you want to know about the Kudubi community and its traditional music instrument Gumti.

—Y Maheswara Reddy



Role of a lifetime

While Bobby Deol had won praise for his performance in his OTT shows, it was his turn as the ruthless Abrar in Animal that saw him making a dhamakedaar comeback on the big screen one year ago. Despite a short screen presence, his portrayal and the song Jamal Kudu became one the biggest talking points of the film directed by Sandeep Reddy Vanga. As the film clocks in a year, Bobby reflects on how this brief role of a lifetime impacted his career.

Bobby says that even though it's been a year, people continue to shower a lot of love on the film. "Animal has changed my life. It gave me the kind of year I always dreamed of. Wherever I go, I still feel the love and blessings from people. It's overwhelming. I have been in the industry for 29 years and I have been given another opportunity, so I have to give it my best. Animal has given me confidence and made me realise that you can't get carried away with success, you have to respect it."

The actor has been seen playing characters with grey shades in other projects as well, like the show Aashram and the Tamil film Kanguva. Ask him if he fears getting typecast, and he says, "What happens is that when you succeed in something, they (the industry) want to use you for those reasons. But I am trying to break out of that. I've already shot for a few films this year that are different. When you play the antagonist, you get to explore multiple facets of a character, which I enjoy. However, I'm also waiting for an interesting protagonist role with great depth."

— Onkar Kulkarni, TNN

Action time

Samantha Ruth Prabhu was recently seen in an action web series, Citadel: Honey Bunny, alongside Varun Dhawan. Now, Samantha shared her feelings about resuming work on another action movie through a hilarious post about romantic roles.

In a recent Instagram story, Samantha shared a photo of her wrist, tightly bound with wristbands and chains. While sharing the image, which featured a bloody red theme, Samantha wrote, "Here we go again, #ACTION, #Raktbrahmand." It appears she has started filming her next OTT venture with Rahi Anil Barve, backed by Raj & DK. In her next post, she mocked her early career in romantic roles. She shared a meme featuring Chiranjeevi and

Brahmanandam. In the meme, Brahmanandam asks, "Love scene teedhama (intense love scene?)" to which Chiranjeevi responds with a nervous face. When Brahmanandam suggests an action sequence instead, Chiranjeevi reacts with enthusiasm. **— ETimes**

Steel rope barrier enough to keep jumbos in jungle?

Elephants camped in sugarcane field at Hampapura (File photo)

Minister asks officials to study efficacy of method that was scrapped last year after IISc researchers said barricade not strong enough in its original shape

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Karnataka's plan to revisit the steel rope barricade project to reduce human-elephant conflict can be implemented only after experts have provided detailed analysis.

While the Forest Minister has instructed Karnataka Forest Department (KFD) officials to study the efficacy of steel ropes in keeping the jumbos inside forest areas, the project, based on the Tamil Nadu model, was scrapped by the department last year after a team of researchers from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) evaluated the design and strength of the steel rope barricades only to conclude that the barricade is not strong enough in its original shape and form (as used in Tamil Nadu).

"After the study, researchers had suggested some modifications. However, we realised that incorporating them would make the design cumbersome, and the project cost would increase. Thus, we have decided to scrap the project and go with rail barricades. We will have to consult IISc researchers again," said SK Malkhede, principal chief conservator of forests (wildlife) and chief wildlife warden of Karnataka.

Researchers conducted the study on a 4.5 kilometre steel rope in Nagarhole Tiger Reserve installed by the department on a pilot basis. Tests were conducted using the kind of forces generated when adult elephants apply pressure on the steel ropes. They also analysed the strength of the system and looked into ways to strengthen it without going overboard.

The cost of the steel rope barricade that Tamil Nadu is using is around 50 lakh per km. However, the cost of the barrier designed and constructed based on recommendations by IISc would reach nearly Rs 1 crore per km. On average, the rail barricade costs between Rs 1.4 and 1.6 crore per km.

"KFD had come up with this alternative after trying elephant-proof trenches, solar power tentacles, solar fences, and railway barricades to keep the jumbos out of the farmlands. The steel rope barricades were also found to be more affordable compared to the rail barricades. Because if we can reduce 4,550 lakhs also per km, it is a substantial cost saving for us," said a KFD official.

Experts say Karnataka's landscape and terrain are unlike Tamil Nadu's. Care should be taken to ensure that the experiment does not result in unnecessary loss of life due to the poor efficacy of the steel rope barricade.

"Tamil Nadu's landscape mostly has moist deciduous forests with hilly terrain that does not allow elephants to venture out of the forest area to a large extent. On the other hand, Karnataka's forests, including Bandipur Tiger Reserve and also parts of BRT have landscapes that support the elephant movement. So, while steel ropes as barriers might have worked in Tamil Nadu, they might not in Karnataka. Our administrative measures probably require a different approach to bring down the conflict," said Ramesh Belagere, a wildlife researcher at the Foundation of Ecology and Education Development.

Some also point to the high management cost of steel ropes. "While rail barricades hardly require any maintenance, it is not the case with steel rope barricades. The ropes work on tension in the cable. Elephants will effortlessly negotiate if tensions wear off and the cables sag. If the department decides to go ahead with this, officials will have to devise more effective ways to reduce the cost of maintenance. We should bear in mind that the department has struggled in the past with maintaining existing barriers such as elephant-proof trenches and solar fences," said a wildlife conservationist.

Disease resistance of crops is going down

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Come cropper

Experts say the depletion of groundwater reserves in Bengaluru's surrounding districts is a worrisome trend as Chikkaballapur and Kolar are the major suppliers of fruit and vegetables to the city.

"It is difficult to comprehend this drop in groundwater table despite above average rainfall this year. These districts are heavily dependent on groundwater for agriculture and with the recent surge in demand; groundwater exploitation might have hit a new high, leading to the drop. This drop is even more concerning, given that lakes in these districts are being filled with secondary treated water to improve groundwater table," said a city-based expert.

According to Dr. C Nagarajaiah, professor and ex-head of the Department of Forestry and Environmental Science at the University of Agricultural Sciences (GKVK), Bengaluru, the city and neighbouring districts have received excess rainfall even during November. Given the scenario, the groundwater table should show improvement over the coming months.

Veggie quality

While the groundwater table has not improved in these districts, disease resistance of vegetable crops in these areas is going down, experts say.

They say there is a need to conduct a detailed study on the impact of secondary treated water on vegetables and flower crops of Chikkaballapur and Kolar.

"There should be thorough experiments on the effect of treated water on crop yield in areas with lakes filled with treated water. As per our interaction with farmers, the frequency of insecticide spray in agricultural fields has gone up. Earlier, farmers would spray their crops two to three times a month to keep them healthy. However, now they are spraying insecticides nearly five times a month. A detailed study on the impact of this water on food crops should be conducted by the government," added Dr Nagarajaiah.

PPP is turning out to be a raw deal for BBMP

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

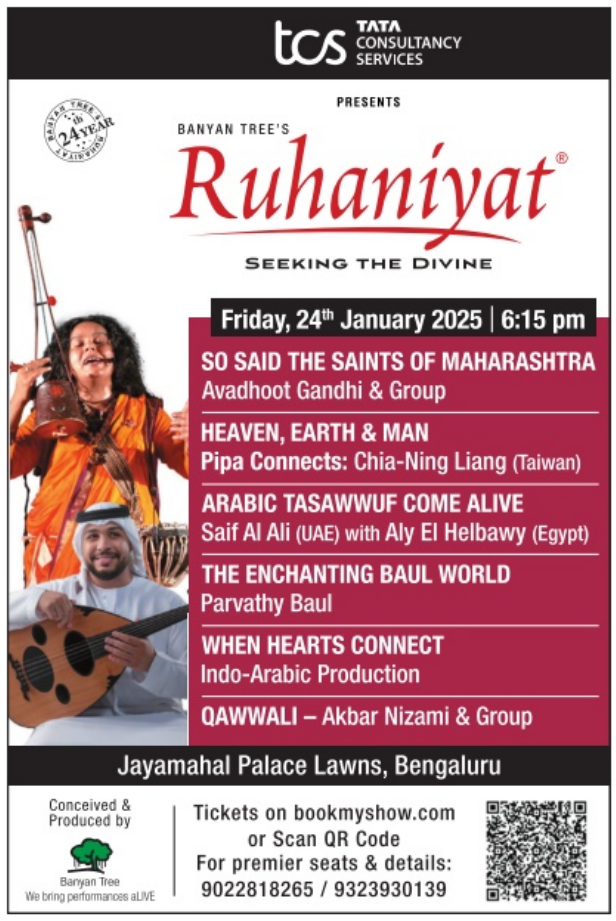
demand notices to defaulting agencies, giving them 15 days to clear dues. But even that has not helped, he said. "No significant recovery has been made, with some agencies securing court injunctions to delay payments. With advertisement fees constituting a major revenue source for BBMP, the delay in collection continues to strain the civic body's finances, further exacerbated by challenges in property tax recovery. Meanwhile, proposals for a new advertisement policy have sparked concerns about potential irregularities."

Non-utilitarian

However, skywalks and bus shelters, primarily built for public convenience, have become sources of advertising revenue for agencies, but offer limited benefits to pedestrians and commuters. Few people utilise these facilities for their intended purpose, raising concerns about their efficacy.

An official said, "As of now, dues amounting to ₹298.42 crore remain unpaid. This includes ₹33.21 crore from 45 agencies managing skywalks, ₹26.87 crore from 18 agencies handling public toilets, and a staggering ₹238.33 crore from 1,327 agencies responsible for bus shelters across Bengaluru."

Sources said that despite generating revenue from advertising rights at these locations, private agencies have failed to pay the stipulated ground rent and advertising fees to the BBMP.



real estate

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tender & notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is brought to the notice of the general public that out client **Smt. Trapti Agrawal. W/o Rajiv Sharma.** has negotiated and decided to purchase the property Site No. 180/78 &180/79 (more fully described in the schedule) from **Mr. B. V. Raghu S/o Mr. B.R. Venkata Swamy Reddy.** aged 40 years.

All persons having any claim against or to the schedule property or any part thereof by way of inheritance, mortgage, sale, conveyance, MOU, Agreement to Sell, transfer lease deed, tenancy, maintenance, easement, gift, exchange, possession, adverse possession or otherwise howsoever are hereby required to submit the same in writing along with documentary proof to the undersigned within 15 days from the date of publication hereof, failing which our client shall proceed without any reference to such claim and the same, if any, will be considered as waived. Pls reach out to mob. 9535157959/ 9886436000, if any objection.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the land open space, Lank Mark bearing House No. 78 & 79, Property No. 180/78,180/79, As per form No. 9, Serial No. 1347, As per form No. 11, Serial No. 190/180/79, 591/180/78 situated at Dommasandra Village & Grama Panchayathi, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Tq, Vinayaka Nagar, Dommasandra -Chandapura Road Muthanallur Cross Bengaluru Urban Dist. (EAST)- 562125 Khatha no. 1502001009001027 83-591/180/78 & 1502001009001033 52-591/180/79. In all measuring 3600 Square Feet therein and bounded on the: **EAST BY:** House No. 77, **WEST BY:** Govt Road, **NORTH BY:** House No. 80, 81 & **SOUTH BY:** Panchayathi Road

Address For Service:
Mithun G LLB.
Advocate. Door No 4
Chowdeshwari Complex Near Lions Eye Hospital Vinayaka Nagara Muthanallur Cross Dommasandra Bengaluru 562125

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, ABHAY VIJAYVARGIYA S/O SATYAPRAKASH VIJAY R/O A-701 BHUVI BY AMSHA, SY 76/2, PANATUR VILLAGE, VARTHUR HOBLI, KADUBEESANAHALLI, BENGALURU, KARNATAKA-560103 STATE THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM ABHAY KUMAR VIJAY TO ABHAY VIJAYVARGIYA FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSES.

I, Salif Samir Memon No 459 4th Floor 17th Cross Service Road 6Th Sector HSR Layout B'lore 560102 have changed my name to Memon Saalif

I, Anjali V Potadar , W/o. Sachin Pattar, Aged about 31 years, residing at 264, 3rd Cross, 4th main, 4th stage BEML Layout, R R Nagar, Bengaluru-560098, I have changed my name to ANJALI SACHIN PATTAR, vide affidavit dated:07.12.2024 before notary S.R Thulasikrishna, Bangalore

I Bhagtani Vishesh S/O, Bhagtani Prakash R/o 101, 1st Floor, Varsha Grand, Marathalli Rd, Serenity Layout, Kaikondrahalli, Bengaluru 560035 have changed my name to Bhagtani Vishesh Prakash, affidavit dt: 04/12/2024, Notary B.M Chandrashekar

I, Chandrashekharappa Satisha Hanchenamane S/o Chandrashekarappa R/o #155 2nd Cross Madhukar Bldg Glass Factory Lyt Ananth Nagar Electronic City B'luru-560100 have changed my name to Sathish H C for all Purposes.

I Naseem Ahammad Shaik,R/O at No 57,Golden Aptmnt ground floor popular colony opp Mesh factory Bommanahalli Bangalore 560068 have changed my son name(minor) from Shaik Abdul Aleem Nazeer to Shaik Abdul Aleem.

I, Muzammil K., S/o. K. Inayathullah, R/o: #44, Flat #302 Main, 3rd Flr, 6th Main, 3rd Cross, Maruthi Nagar, BTM L/o., 1st Stage, Blr-29, have changed my name to K. MUZAMMIL for all purposes.

I, Raghavendra S/o Srinivas Murthy Krishna Murthy R/o #24 2nd Main Road Near Eswari School BSK 3rd Stage B'luru-560085 have changed my name to Raghavendra S for all Purposes.

I, Aneev Amit S/O, Amit Kumar Sinha R/o No A 301 Elena Apartment Electronic City Phase 1 Bengaluru 560100 have changed my name to Aneev Amit Sinha for all purposes.

I, Matam Ramesh R/O Flat No E-102, Concorde Spring Meadows, Chikkasandra, T.Dasarahalli, Blr-57 I changed my Minor daughter name from Praarthana Math to Prarthana Math for all future purposes.

I, Sudha Patil R/o G701, Orchid Woods Apts , Hennur Bagalur Rd, Kothanur B'lore-560077 have changed my name from Sudha Patil to Sudha Ankasakhani for all purposes.

I, Saaniya Mohamed Samir Memon No 459 4Th Floor 17th Cross Service Road 6th Sector HSR Layout Bangalore 560102 Have Changed My Name To Memon Saaniya

GET NOTICED

ISF
MEGA SHOE SALE
IS NOW AT BANGALORE
LEADING EXPORTERS OF FOOTWEAR AND LEATHER PRODUCTS
WILL BE ON SALE
SHOES SANDALS HANDBAGS WALLETS BELTS JACKETS
DEC 6 TO 16
10 AM - 9 PM
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Required
Distributors & Sales Engineers With Sales Team Support
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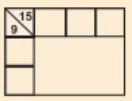
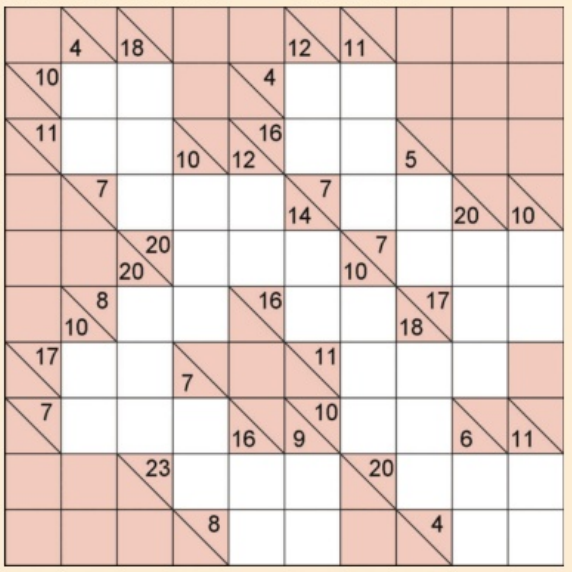
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

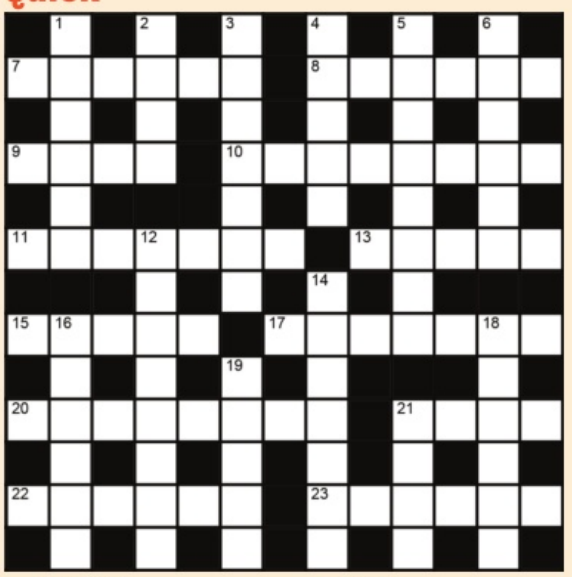


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Cetologist's foe? (6)
8 Motivation (6)
9 Mr Kapoor of Bollywood (4)
10 Highest points (8)
11 Capable of being stretched? (7)
13 Awaken (5)
15 Attach (5)
17 Deals with, controls (7)
20 Japanese dish (8)
21 Precious stones (4)
22 Displease (6)
23 Assigns or distributes (6)

DOWN

1 From that place (6)
2 Israeli carrier (2,2)
3 Solemnly or earnestly; seriously (7)
4 Ten million, in our country? (5)
5 Yellow flower (8)
6 Exemplars (6)
12 Lively or passionate (8)
14 Dynasty which ruled the Kingdom of Mysore from 1399 to 1947 (7)
16 Light and puffed up (6)
18 Ants, old style (6)
19 Sturdy (5)
21 Audacity (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: K EQUALS G

SR QR D QNAA SJTWK ITSJ HSLAP-WRI SJDS'H IJDS T ZDAA DCS.

Linemaro

Anyone can sit here and buy you drinks. I want to buy you dinner

Mindchow

Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything

Joke of the day

Prof: Chemical symbol of Barium is BA and Sodium is NA. What will you get if you combine two atoms of Sodium with one atom of Barium? Student: Banana

Loop

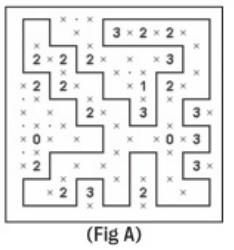
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

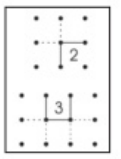
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

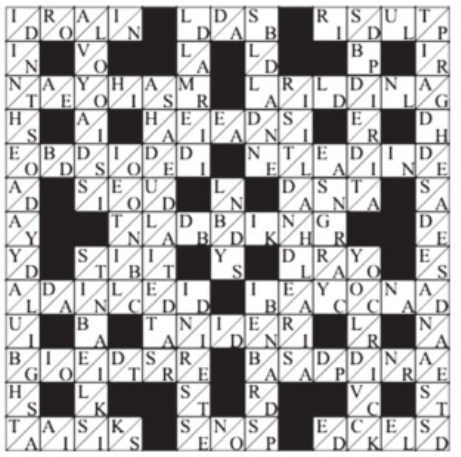


(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed

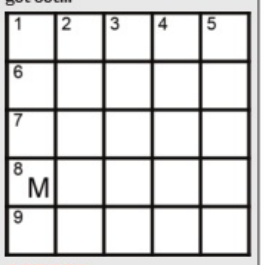
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

1 Crabs; 6 Or ape; 7 Toper; 8 A ream; 9 K lobe

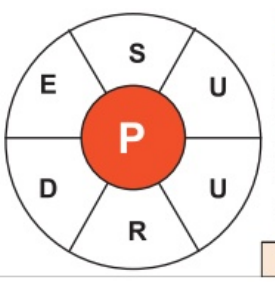
DOWN

1 Combo; 2 Papal; 3 To err; 4 Brake; 5 Erase

Mensapuzzle

Which number replaces the question mark and completes the sequence?

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

10 Average; 11 Good; 13 Outstanding

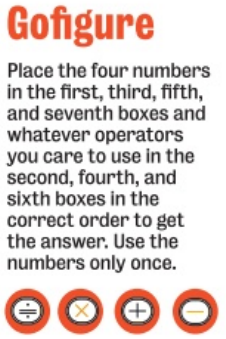
SudokuChallenge

		5		6			9	
9			8		4		7	
		3	5			4		
		4		7	3	9		
	1						5	
		2	1	5		6		
		6			7	5		
	3		9		1			4
	7			4		8		

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

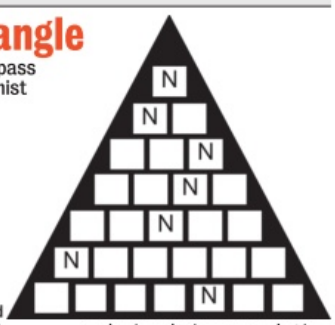
Differences: 1. Can is reversed. 2. Tree is taller. 3. Water drop is missing. 4. Nose is smaller. 5. Sleeve is shorter. 6. Mountain is added.

Riddler

White flesh, drinks dew, Gives milk, won't moo, Hairy head, over sand, Has a palm, but no hand. What is it?

Alpha triangle

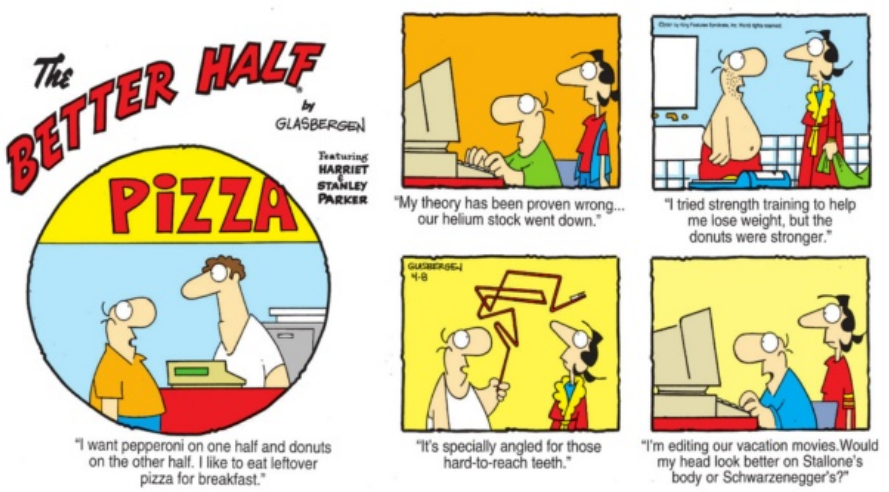
1 North on the compass
2 Neon for the chemist
3 Folding money
4 Got going
5 Takes care of
6 Settled
7 Prolongs

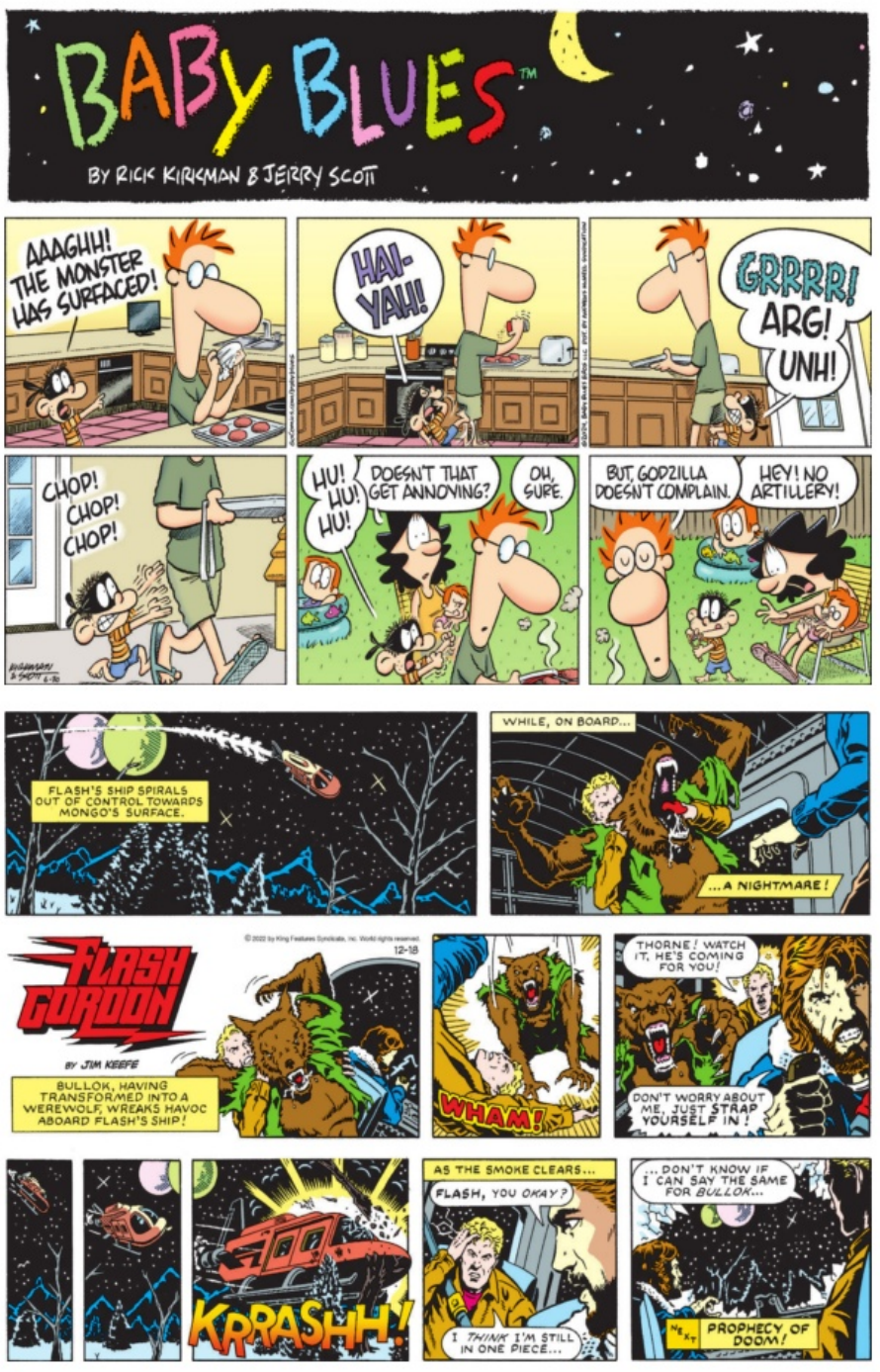


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS


The BETTER HALF
by GLASBERGEN
Featuring HARRIET & STANLEY PARKER
PIZZA
"I want pepperoni on one half and donuts on the other half. I like to eat leftover pizza for breakfast."
"My theory has been proven wrong... our helium stock went down."
"I tried strength training to help me lose weight, but the donuts were stronger."
"It's specially angled for those hard-to-reach teeth."
"I'm editing our vacation movies. Would my head look better on Stallone's body or Schwarzenegger's?"



FLASH'S SHIP SPIRALS OUT OF CONTROL TOWARDS MONGO'S SURFACE.
WHILE, ON BOARD...
...A NIGHTMARE!
FLASH GORDON
© 2022 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
12-18
BY JIM KEEFE
BULLOK, HAVING TRANSFORMED INTO A WEREWOLF, WREAKS HAVOC ABOARD FLASH'S SHIP!
WHAM!
THORNE! WATCH IT, HE'S COMING FOR YOU!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, JUST STRAP YOURSELF IN!
KRRASHH!
AS THE SMOKE CLEARS...
FLASH, YOU OKAY?
I THINK I'M STILL IN ONE PIECE...
... DON'T KNOW IF I CAN SAY THE SAME FOR BULLOK...
NEXT PROPHECY OF DOOM!

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
You may be busy at work today, which may make you mentally tired which may affect your day's routine. You may be able to create an overseas network. you should be careful in terms of investments. A job promotion might happen.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, the situation is under control now. Luck is likely to be with you and may result in gains. You may get some rewards for your hard work. Projects which were stopped without a reason are likely to be reinitiated. You can expect peaceful religious travel. You may also plan to donate some amount to any religious place or some charity.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
You may face health issues today. You may face losses in the business or past investments. It is advised not to invest in any business. Your gains will convert into losses. So you are advised to stop making investments in worthless objects. You should avoid being involved in controversies, otherwise, it will pull down your reputation.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today you may be able to perform well in terms of work. Your boss is likely to give you some new responsibility in terms of promotions. Disputes with the partner may be settled. You may lend money. Your kid's health will improve. You are likely to make some investments for kids' futures.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you are blessed by the moon. Love would be in the air in terms of personal life. Singles may find a suitable match. You may do better in terms of professional life. Your friends and subordinate staff may support you. Investments in gems and jewellery will likely give positive gains soon. Be careful with elders' health.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
You may be happy due to a blessing from an auspicious planetary combination. You may have some sort of energy which may give you prestige among people around you. You may spend your time studying intellectual stuff.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Your day might start on a dull note but after late evening, you may be able to control the negativity. New people may connect with you on the work front. With the help of new people, you may try to revamp your business plans. It is advised to read documents before signing them.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, with the help of blessings, you may have control over your indecisiveness. Your kid's health will improve. Your colleagues may be supportive of your work. You may expect to get some incentives with the salary. People in the field of dairy, water projects, grains, art and culture may do good.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
You may plan to migrate from your current place to another place today. It is advised to think twice before making decisions regarding migration or change of place. You may also plan to change jobs. There will be peace in your mind. But your kid's health might make you upset. Love birds should keep patience before taking an important decision regarding marriage.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today you may have good patience. Meditation may help you to increase concentration, which may help to speed up your project. Your subordinates may cooperate with you, it may help you to complete the project ahead of time. You are likely to do some work-related travel. An influential person may help you to boost your network.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
You may be busy with a family get-together today. You may become polite with the people around you, which may increase your prestige among them. You may spend money on buying some artefacts or household stuff which may improve your social status. You are likely to hear some good news from one of your relatives.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you will be busy with a family get-together. You may re-establish your network, which will give you benefits in near future. People in art, fashions, films, and media may plan to do something new in terms of their profession. Students may perform better today in terms of study. Love birds may enjoy their happy moments.

KIDZONE

Abhay Aksha, Bangalore

Muskan, Bangalore

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
-1+1 = 0

RIDDLER
A coconut

STRIKE OUT

I	R	A	N		L	A	B		I	S	U	P		
N		V		A		L		P		I				
T	A	O	I	S	M		A	I	D	I	N	G		
H		L		T		D		C		S				
G	O	I	T	R	E		A	S	P	I	R	E		
I		A		I	D	E	R		R		N			
L	A	N	C	E	D		B	E	Y	O	N	D		
Y		S	I	T		S		D	R	Y		E		
A		N	A	B	B	I	N	G				D		
D	S	O	D		L		A	N	T			A		
E	D	D	I	E	D		E	L	A	I	N	E		
H		I		H	E	A	D	S		R		H		
T	A	O	I	S	M		A	I	D	I	N	G		
N		V		A		L		P		I				
I	R	A	N		L	A	B		I	S	U	P		

FAST FIVE

C	A	R	B	S
O	P	E	R	A
O	P	T	E	R
M	A	R	A	E
B	L	O	K	E

BULL'S EYE
dupe, prude, pure, purse, pursed, pursue, PURSUED, sped, spud, spun, super, usurp, USURPED

QUICK

T	E	G		C	M		M			L	I	S	U	P
			E			R		Y						
W	H	A	L	E	R		E	A	S	O	N			
		E		A		O		R		D				
A	N	I	L		V	E	R	T	I	C	E	S		
		C		E		E		G		L				
T	E	N	S	I	L	E		R	O	U	S	E		
		P		Y		W		L						
A	F	F	I	X		H	A	N	D	L	E	S		
		L		R		H		D		M				
S	U	K	I	Y	A	K	I		G	E	M	S		
		F		T		R		Y		A		E		
O		F	E	N	D		A	L	L	O	T	S		
		Y		D		Y		R		L		S		

SUDOKU

4	8	5	7	6	2	1	9	3
9	6	1	8	3	4	2	7	5
7	2	3	5	1	9	4	8	6
6	5	4	2	7	3	9	1	8
3	9	2	1	5	8	6	4	7
8	1	7	4	9	6	3	5	2
1	4	6	3	8	7	5	2	9
5	3	8	9	2	1	7	6	4
2	7	9	6	4	5	8	3	1

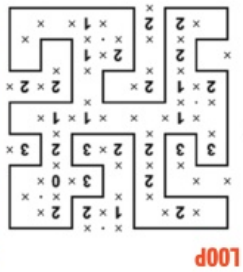
MENSA PUZZLE
0. Working from left to right and reading each pair of numbers as a 2 digit value, represent the sequence of multiples of 7, starting at 49 and finishing on 70.

QUOTE UNCODE
To do a dull thing with style–now that's what I call art.

ALPHA TRIANGLE
N, Ne, Ten, Sent, Tends, Nested, Extends.

GO FIGURE
Easy
2 – 6 + 6 – 1 = 1
Medium
6 x 3 – 4 – 5 = 9
Hard
8 – 7 x 5 – 1 = 4

LOOP



KAKURO

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POORVIKA

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF POORVIKA

YEAR END
MEGA EXCHANGE MELA

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